AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-16.   (Cancelled).

17.   (Currently Amended) A method for transmitting messages in a multi-node network, comprising:

storing a fixed-byte format message ~~with any~~ including a plurality of characters each represented by a fixed number of bytes;

converting the fixed-byte format message into a multibyte format message ~~with any~~ including characters represented by ~~one or more~~ various numbers of bytes, depending on the character;

obtaining an actual length of the multibyte format message; ~~and~~

packaging the information reflecting the actual length of the multibyte format message with the multibyte format message; and

transmitting the packaged information and ~~reflecting the actual length of the multibyte format message with the~~ multibyte format message to a network node[[.]] in a HTTP request.

18.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 17, wherein converting further comprises translating each character in the fixed-byte format message according to an UTF-8 encoding format.

19.   (Cancelled)

20.   (Currently Amended)   A computer readable medium containing

instructions for controlling a computer to perform a method for transmitting messages in

a multi-node network, the method comprising:

storing a fixed-byte format message ~~with any~~ including a plurality of characters

each represented by a fixed number of bytes;

converting the fixed-byte format message into a multibyte format message ~~with~~

~~any~~ including characters represented by ~~one or more~~ various numbers of bytes,

depending on the character;

obtaining an actual length of the multibyte format message; ~~and~~

packaging the information reflecting the actual length of the multibyte format

message with the multibyte format message; and

transmitting the packaged information and ~~reflecting the actual length of the~~

~~multibyte format message with the~~ multibyte format message to a network node[[.]] in a

HTTP request.

21.   (Previously Presented)   The computer readable medium of claim 20,

wherein converting further comprises translating each character in the fixed-byte format

message according to an UTF-8 encoding format.

22.   (Cancelled)

23.   (Currently Amended)   An apparatus for transmitting messages in a multi-node network, the apparatus comprising:

a memory configured to store a fixed-byte format message ~~with any~~ including a plurality of characters each represented by a fixed number of bytes;

a processor configured to convert the fixed-byte format message into a multibyte format message ~~with any~~ including characters represented by ~~one or more~~ various numbers of bytes, depending on the character, and to obtain an actual length of the multibyte format message; and

a transmitter configured to transmit information reflecting the actual length of the multibyte format message with the multibyte format message to a network node[[.]] in a HTTP request.

24.   (Previously Presented)   The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the processor is further configured to translate each character in the fixed-byte format message according to an UTF-8 encoding format.

25.   (Cancelled)

26.   (Currently Amended)   A system for transmitting messages in a multi-node network, the system comprising:

means for storing a fixed-byte format message ~~with any~~ including a plurality of characters each represented by a fixed number of bytes;

means for converting the fixed-byte format message into a multibyte format

message ~~with any~~ including characters represented by ~~one or more~~ various numbers of

bytes, depending on the character;

means for obtaining an actual length of the multibyte format message; ~~and~~

means for packaging the information reflecting the actual length of the multibyte

format message with the multibyte format message; and

means for transmitting the packaged information and ~~reflecting the actual length~~

~~of the multibyte format message with the~~ multibyte format message to a network

node[[.]] in a HTTP request.

27.   (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 26, wherein the means for

converting further comprises means for translating each character in the fixed-byte

format message according to an UTF-8 encoding format.

28.   (Cancelled)